

Application Serial No. 09/865,878
Docket No. 40655.1700
Response/Amendment dated May 12, 2003
Reply to Office Action mailed on May 4, 2004

REMARKS

The Examiner has asserted a Restriction Requirement under 35 U.S.C. § 121 requiring restriction of the application. Applicant hereby elects Group I, consisting of Claims 1-41, for prosecution in this application. Applicant has selected Group I in order to expedite prosecution of this application. Applicant does not traverse the Restriction Requirement, nor does Applicant necessarily acquiesce to the Examiner's foundation for the Restriction Requirement as set forth in the May 4, 2004 Office Action. Accordingly, the foregoing election is made without waiver, estoppel or without prejudice to the filing of one or more related applications directed to the subject matter of the canceled claims.

The foregoing amendment conforms this application to the Examiner's Restriction Requirement dated May 4, 2004. Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. No new matter is added in this Response. Reconsideration of the application is thus requested. Applicant invites the Office to telephone the undersigned if the Examiner has any questions regarding this Response or the present application in general.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: May 12, 2004

By: 

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